

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 SY-05 /085 W  
-----010337 150722Z /14

R 141258Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6724  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 14560

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PDIP, IN, AU, UK  
SUBJECT: ANANDA MARG AND ALLEGED THREATS AGAINST INDIAN OFFICIALS

REF: CANBERRA 6473 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER DESAI REPORTEDLY HAS ACCUSED THE ANANDA MARG OF BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR A BOMB SCARE AGAINST HIM AND OF THREATENING POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS. THE HOME MINISTER HAS DIRECTED POLICE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO BE ALERT TO MARG ACTIVITIES. THESE DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOW ACCUSATIONS IN THE PRESS THAT FOLLOWERS OF THE MARG ASSAULTED AN INDIAN OFFICIAL IN AUSTRALIA AND HAVE THREATENED VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIANS IN AUSTRALIA, THE UK AND ELSEWHERE. THE ANANDA MARG HAS DENIED ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE GROUP WHICH ALLEGEDLY HAS ISSUED THE THREATS IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE FROM PRISON OF MARG LEADER P. R. SARKAR.  
END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO A SAMACHAR REPORT, PRIME MINISTER DESAI SAID IN SURAT, GUJARAT STATE, OCTOBER 12 THAT HE SAW THE HAND OF THE  
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ANANDA MARG BEHIND A BOMB SCARE WHICH HAD DELAYED HIS DEPARTURE BY TRAIN FROM BOMBAY THE PREVIOUS NIGHT. THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TWO THREATENING LETTERS FROM THE ANANDA MARG, POSTED FROM AUSTRALIA AND LONDON. HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH HAS DIRECTED THE POLICE TO PREVENT ANY ATTEMPTS AT ASSASSINATION OF POLITICAL LEADERS.

2. THE INDIAN PRESS REPORTS THAT OCTOBER 8 THE WINDOW OF THE INDIAN TOURIST OFFICE IN LONDON WAS SHATTERED BY A BRICK TO WHICH WAS ATTACHED A MESSAGE TO PM DESAI. THE MESSAGE, SIGNED BY THE "UK DIVISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMAND OF THE UNIVERSAL PROUTIST REVOLUTIONARY FEDERATION DEMANDED THE IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ANANDA MARG LEADER P. R. SARKAR (CONVICTED LAST YEAR FOR THE MURDER OF MARG DEFECTORS). IF HE WAS NOT FREED WITHIN A WEEK, THE GROUP WOULD BEGIN A CAMPAIGN OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS. THE MESSAGE CLAIMED THE GROUP HAD FAILED IN CANBERRA, BUT WOULD NOT FAIL AGAIN. THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION HAS SOUGHT PROTECTION FROM HMG.

3. THE MENTION OF CANBERRA REFERS TO THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON THE INDIAN MILITARY ATTACHE THERE IN SEPTEMBER (REFTEL). THE DELHI PRESS ALLEGED THAT THE YOUNG AUSTRALIAN ARRESTED FOR THE ATTACK WAS A MARGI, THAT THE PROUTIST GROUP WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR AN EARLIER FIRE AT THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION IN CANBERRA, AND THAT THE GROUP SUBSEQUENTLY THREATENED ALL INDIAN OFFICIALS IN AUSTRALIA. THE MARG LEADER IN AUSTRALIA DENIED ALL ALLEGATIONS.

4. INDIAN MISSIONS IN KABUL, KATHMANDU AND ISLAMABAD HAVE ALSO RECEIVED THREATENING LETTERS.

5. THE ANANDA MARG IN INDIA OCTOBER 12 IN A PRESS STATEMENT AND A LETTER TO THE HOME MINISTER DENIED ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE PROUTIST GROUP AND CLAIMED IT HAD NO POLITICAL WING AND HAD NEVER

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HEARD OF THE ORGANIZATION.

(FYI: THE TERM PROUT MEANS PROGRESSIVE UTILIZATION THEORY, SARKAR'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICY.)

6. AN AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMAT TOLD US THAT THE MAN ACCUSED IN THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IN CANBERRA WILL COME TO TRIAL LATER THIS MONTH. HE WAS APPREHENSIVE THAT IF IT WERE SHOWN THAT THE ACCUSED WAS IN FACT LINKED TO THE MARG, THERE MIGHT BE SOME DANGER OF RETALIATION AGAINST THE AUSTRALIAN MISSION IN DELHI. AS FOR THE FIRE AT THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSION, HE SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW THE AUTHORITIES HAD FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF ARSON. INDIAN PERSONNEL IN CANBERRA WERE BEING PROTECTED BY A DETAIL OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED SECURITY MEN.

7. A BRITISH COLLEAGUE SAID THAT THE LONDON INCIDENT WAS RECEIVING FAR LESS ATTENTION THERE THAN IN THE INDIAN PRESS. IN HIS OPINION, THE THREATS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED SERIOUSLY, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO ATTEMPTS IN INDIA. HE THOUGHT PERHAPS THAT AN EXTREMIST SEGMENT OF THE MARG HAD GIVEN UP ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SARKAR BEING RELEASED BY THE COURTS OR THE GOVT AND WAS TRYING TO FORCE THE ISSUE

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## Message Attributes

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